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The PC Chronicle

Vol.17 No.27 Monday, April 19, 1999

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FSU Golden Girls have a tough job
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Canadian rock band Joydrop debuts with 'Metasexual'
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# Democratic student enters mayoral race

DAREN SAMPLAWSKI
Copy Editor

Isabel Rey Trzcinski

She lacks political experience and has never held public office.

But PUC sophomore Isabel Rey Trzcinski, a public relations major, believes that one does not have to start at the bottom.

| Support | Opposition |
|---|---|
| "It's a good idea. She's young and could bring new ideas to the table." Martha Lopez, Hammond resident | "She doesn't have a chance of winning or making an effect." Maurice Eisenstein, political science professor |

Trzcinski is running for the democratic nomination for mayor of the city of Hammond, the second largest city in Lake County.

"I feel the younger generation needs to know that it is time to get out there and make changes," Trzcinski said.

According to PUC senior, public relations major and Trzcinski's polit-

See Mayor, Page 3

# Awards banquet honors academic achievements

KIM KINTZ
News Editor

Students looking for an excuse to dress up, dance a little and support their fellow active students should put on their dancing shoes and get their tickets for the 26th annual Student Awards Banquet.

The banquet will be held April 23 at 6 p.m. at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond. Students can purchase their tickets now through April 19. Tickets are $15 for students and $20 for guests.

At the banquet, numerous awards will be presented to student organizations as well as individual students. The awards for student organizations include individual citations within student organizations and the award for the most active student organization. The most active student organization award is given to the

See Awards, Page 3

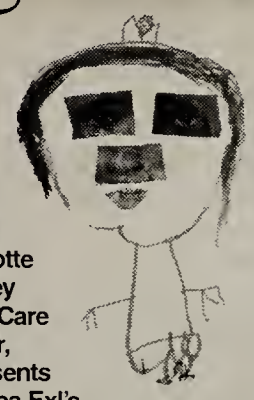
Photos by Katie Hayes

After rehearsing, this boy washes his hands for the snack that awaits him.

The children who learn in the North Room practice for Parent Day while the children in the South Room take their nap.

# Child care center prepares for Week of the Young Child

RICK PEREGOY
Staff Writer



This piece of art, which hangs in the Charlotte R. Riley Child Care Center, represents Chelsea Exl's best friend Meagan.

Bring your purple pajamas, your favorite purple dinosaur and your imagination to the celebration of the week of the young child at PUC's Charlotte R. Riley Child Care Center.

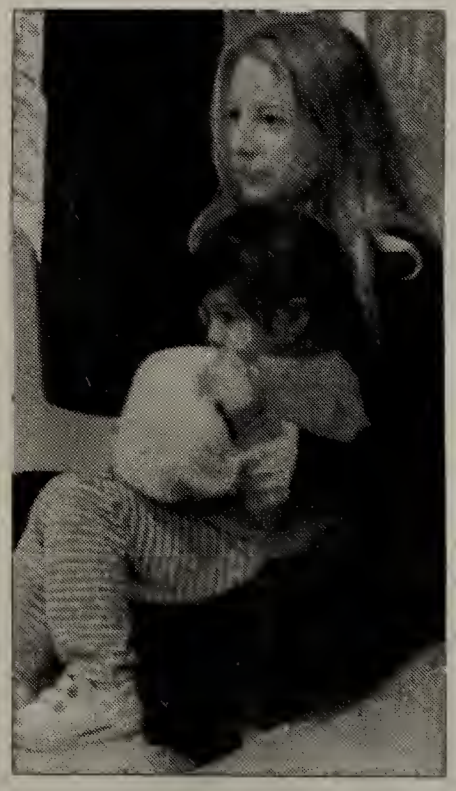
The National Association for the Education of Young Children is observing the Week of the Young Child April 19 through April 24.

"We are kicking the week off by sending out friendship packages to everyone and encouraging people to make friendship bracelets in support of the children," said director Tamra Bottomlee, of the PUC Charlotte R. Riley Child Center.

Other events planned for the center include an open house in the blue room, April 30. Children and their families are invited to the center at 6 p.m. for special activities and sing-a-longs.

On April 19, teachers and children, dressed in purple, will go on a "Purple Parade" around the PUC campus.

"It's a great way to remind everyone that we're here and that we really care about children," Bottomlee said.



A staff member at the center sits with one of the children while she wakes up from her nap.

# Committee searches for new communications department head

*MARTI TRGOVICH*
Managing Editor

A committee will be formed to search for a new head of the department of communications and creative arts, following the departure of Bill Robinson.

Saul Lerner, dean of the school of liberal arts and sciences, said that in the next few weeks, a professor from the department will be named acting head.

From there, a committee of communications and creative arts faculty will examine candidates. Lerner said applicants may come from the university or apply from outside.

"Serving as a department head is not an easy matter," Lerner said.

Associate professor of communications Tom Roach said a committee will be announced soon. "I know it's going to kick in pretty quick," he said, adding that no one in the department had been contacted about the committee yet.

Robinson announced last month that he would vacate the position of department head. He will leave for a one year sabbatical and return as a professor to teach.

"I need to do this...it's important to me," Robinson said about his decision to teach in the April 12 *Chronicle*. Robinson worked on PUC's administrative level before becoming department head.

Lerner said that Robinson's plan is a normal course of action for any one in a university setting.

"People simply get tired of one (university position) and move into another," Lerner said.

"We all wish Professor Robinson well. He's served the campus in a number of different capacities."

The Song Company will perform for the final time at 8 p.m. on April 24 and at 3 p.m. on April 25 in Alumni Hall

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

# *Responding to a state-wide 'brain drain'*

**Recently, Indiana-wide news media reported that some 36 percent of the state's college graduates leave Indiana after they graduate for out-of-state jobs. At some institutions, the departure rate is as high as 60 percent.**

Within higher education circles, that exodus is known as "brain drain."

The revelation that Indiana exports more than one-third more graduates than it retains or imports came from the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute in cooperation with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. The finding was based on a survey of 8,000+ graduates of publicly supported Indiana colleges and universities.

Why are Hoosier grads leaving Indiana?

### *Better pay, benefits, advancement*

Survey results indicate overwhelmingly the reasons are job-related—i.e., poorer pay, benefits and advancement prospects than elsewhere.

Conversely, Illinois attracts 22 percent more college-degreed workers than it educates.

The reason for that disparity? As The (NW Indiana) Times noted in an April 8 editorial: "The economic development maxim is that companies locate in areas where the business environment is favorable, and that includes a well-educated work force. And college graduates go where the jobs are."

### *Making state needs a top priority*

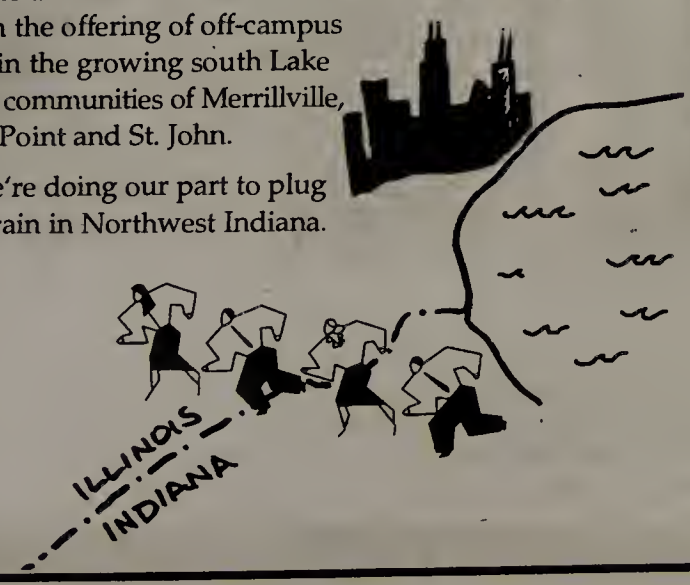
The Times editorial went on to urge the state to "attract more jobs for its college graduates" and to "improve access to education." It also opined that the state's higher educational institutions, regardless of their national and international reputations, must make state needs their top priority. One way to do that is for campuses to work closely with in-state employers.

The editorial also encouraged regional campuses "to be more acutely conscious" of their responsibility within Indiana "because of the narrow area from which they draw students and then disperse them."

From a Purdue Calumet perspective, that message is a kin to preaching to the choir. That's because:

- Of our more than 22,000 alumni, two-thirds live in Indiana—with 95 percent of that in-state total residing in Northwest Indiana.
- We have used the undergraduate academic autonomy granted us in the middle 1970s by the Purdue Board of Trustees to initiate degree programs to meet needs and demands of Northwest Indiana. The seed of those programs was planted in no small way through suggestions and encouragement we have received from academic departmental advisory groups comprised of respected, local professionals—many of whom are our own, nearby-residing alumni!
- Access to a Purdue Calumet education has been enhanced through the offering of off-campus classes in the growing south Lake County communities of Merrillville, Crown Point and St. John.

In short, we're doing our part to plug the brain drain in Northwest Indiana.




# At a glance

## around campus

### Finale dinner in Region Room

The RHIT 492 class will prepare and serve a special dinner at 5:30 p.m. and also at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, in the Region Room, located in the cafeteria. Call Diana Racenia at 989-2319 between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Friday, April 16, to make reservations and to select an entree. The price of the dinner is $15.00 including tax.

### Student Awards Banquet dinner and dance

Tickets are now available for the 26th annual Student Awards Banquet to be held starting at 6 p.m. Friday, April 23, at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond. Awards will be presented to the outstanding senior in each department, to the outstanding student leader from the student organizations and to the most active student organization. Numerous individual student organization awards will be also be presented, and the Who's Who presentation will be made. After the dinner and the award presentations, dancing will continue until midnight. Tickets will be available from April 1 through April 19 in the satellite bursar's office, K-104, for $15 each for students with proper identification and for $20 for all others.

### Lyrics for lunch

Call Geralyn Farley at 989-2714 (Ext. 2714) for more information about attending the final event in the "Lyrics for Lunch" series Wednesday, April 21, featuring the musical theme "Chant a Voyage Through Medieval Times, 1200s." Reservations are required.

### PUC Psychology Fair

PUC's Psychology Fair will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, in SFLC-321. Several PUC psychology professors will speak on various career opportunities in the field of behavioral science. Options in industrial psychology, developmental psychology, human factors and cognition, and marriage and family therapy will be discussed. There will be question and answer sessions. For more information, call Carol Allen at 663-8295.

### Vegan discussion and book signing

The PUC group Student of Compassion will host a lecture by Erik Marcus, author of "Vegan: A New Ethics of Eating," at 7 p.m. in SFLC-321. Marcus will sign copies of his book after the lecture. For more information, contact Lisa Tokarz, 903 Old Lincoln Hwy. #103, Schererville, Ind. 46375, 864-9201.

### GLBT meeting

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Student Network will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, April 23, in SFLC-301 to discuss plans for the summer and fall semesters. Everyone is welcome.

### Red Cross first aid and safety classes

The American Red Cross of Northwest Indiana offers the following classes during April:

- Community cardiopulmonary resuscitation, 6:10 p.m., April 20 and 21.
- First aid/CPR re-certification, 6:10 p.m., April 23.

For more information, call Katie Benevides at 756-5360 or (800) 589-8502.

### Habitat for Humanity celebrations

The Northwest Indiana affiliate of Habitat for Humanity will dedicate a house for the Michael McKeever family at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 24, at 7211 W. 129th Lane, Cedar Lake. It will also dedicate an additional house for the Robert Diaz family that day at 1 p.m. at 912 Sibley Boulevard., Hammond. Call 845-9820 for further information.

### Free Internet class

A class providing instruction in the use of e-mail and the Internet will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, April 26, at the Hammond Public Library at 564 State Street in Hammond. The class is free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, call John Strott at 852-2262. One-on-one Internet training sessions are also available at 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30 p.m. in the library. For more information or to make a reservation, call the circulation desk at 931-5100.

### Drop-in center opens

The Engineering, Math and Science Mentoring Drop-in Center in GYTE-148, Ext. 2468, is now open.

### Salvation Army seeks volunteers

The Hammond/Munster Corps of the Salvation Army at 8225 Columbia Avenue. is seeking volunteers for its social services, feeding, food distribution, youth, senior citizens and emergency disaster programs. For more information, call Shirley Fehring at 923-0574.

## Quote of the week

*"There's no money in poetry, but then, there's no poetry in money either."*

**-Robert Graves**
**1895-1985**


# The Chronicle

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# Awards

Continued from page 1

organization that contributed the most to the university as well as the community.

There is also an award for the most outstanding senior of each department. Seventeen seniors are up for the award this year. Students that qualify for this award must have a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher and be graduating this year.

Students must be leaders in the community, not just on campus, according to Michelle Peak, secretary, student leadership development. The award for outstanding student leader will also be presented.

Various academic awards will also be given out at the event. The Who's Who award among students in American universities and colleges will be presented. The students are nominated by staff and faculty on campus and a committee decides who wins. The William Edwin Murrel award will be presented to the outstanding graduating senior in the Electrical Technology department. His family established the award in the memory of Murrel.

According to Peak, being involved in student organizations is important to help one become a well-rounded individual. She said that when a student goes into a job interview after graduation the employer would be able to see that this person could juggle many activities. "(Joining an organization) is what makes this person stand out," said Peak.

**Student Awards Banquet**
The banquet will be held April 23 at 6 p.m. at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond.

Joe Robles, executive board secretary of SGA, also attended last year's event.

He said, "I had a good time. I got to see friends that I didn't have time to see during the school week."

# Mayor

Continued from page 1

ical outreach coordinator, Shelly Beckman, Trzcinski is running for mayor because she wants to raise issues concerning the environment and civic pride.

Trzcinski does not possess a large war chest of cash for her campaign. She said she is relying on a door to door campaign, bumper stickers, fliers and support from her family and friends.

"She doesn't want to be viewed as a politician," Beckman said. Trzcinski wants to be known as a resident and concerned citizen of Hammond, according to Beckman.

Trzcinski proposes infrastructure improvements and beautification of the city as well as pay raises for city employees.

"(An) increase (in wages) for city workers provides more incentive to work and improves the production of employees," Beckman said.

A grass roots campaign may not be enough to win the nomination for Trzcinski.

"I'm not sure the proper place to begin is at the mayoral level," said Maurice Eisenstein, PUC assistant professor of political science. "She doesn't have a chance of winning or making an effect," he said.

Age and experience are not a major concern for the 26-year-old student.

"Anyone can run for mayor," Trzcinski said.

Some students question the time commitment that a political career can have.

"Does she have enough time to run for mayor and attend classes?" Elizabeth Villalobos, a sophomore in history education, asked.

Other students seem to approve of Trzcinski's involvement in local politics.

"It's a good idea. She's young and could bring new ideas to the table," said 21-year-old Hammond resident, Martha Lopez.

Trzcinski is a resident of Hammond and a 1992 graduate of Gavit High School. She trained as a radio operator for the city of St. John police department in 1995. She also worked as a radio operator for the Dyer police department in 1996. Recently, she received the 1998 secretary of the year award from Manpower, a local temporary employment contractor where she is currently employed.

## New student orientation

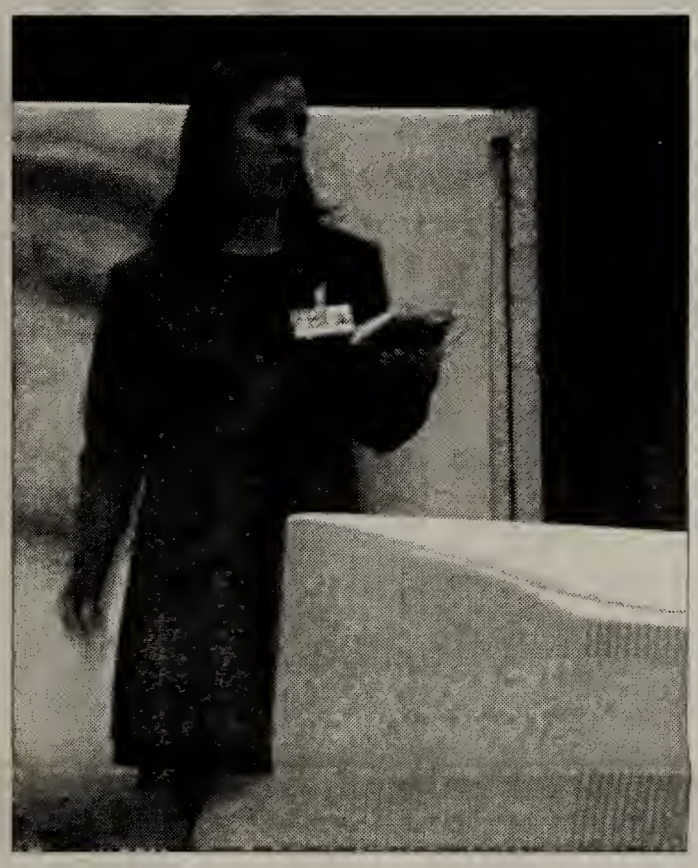


Photo by Lauren Mathews

**Junior Aimee DeLauro, human resource managment major, plays Agent Scully in 'The "P" Files," at New student orientaton.**

## PUC police beat 4/6/98 - 4/12/98

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

**Sunday, April 12,** 10:40 a.m. A vehicle was booted by the university police in the P-1 parking lot north of the Gyte building for unpaid parking violations.

**Sunday, April 11,** 3:50 p.m. A visitor became faint while performing with the Southlake Children's choir in Alumni Hall of the SFLC building. The visitor was treated at the scene and taken home by her mother.

**Sunday, April 11,** 3:35 p.m. A staff member reported cutting his right little finger while opening a coat rack in the lobby of the CLO building.

**Saturday, April 10,** 7:30 a.m. A property damage traffic accident occurred in the P-9 parking lot south of the SFLC building. The striking vehicle backed up into another vehicle that pulled behind it.

**Friday, April 9,** 6 p.m. A participant in the three on three basketball tournament in the PER building injured his right wrist during one of the games.

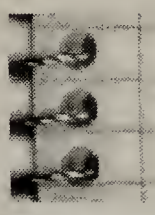
**Wednesday, April 7,** 3:45 p.m. A student became disorderly during a disciplinary hearing in the Dean of Students office and when she was being escorted to her vehicle she became combative and verbally abusive. She committed battery on one of the officers and was arrested and transported to the Hammond Police Department.

**Tuesday, April 6,** 7:05 a.m. A staff member reported damaging a vehicle next to her vehicle in the P-1 staff parking lot due to a gust of wind blowing her door into the adjacent vehicle.

**Tuesday, April 6,** 7:40 p.m. A student reported the theft of money from his wallet that he left in an unlocked locker in the PER building men's locker room.

**Tuesday, April 6,** 10:15 a.m. A property damage traffic accident occurred in the P-9 parking lot south of the SFLC building. The striking vehicle backed up into another vehicle behind it.

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS



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Adecco
THE EMPLOYMENT PEOPLE

Bruce Kimbrell for Student Government Association President 1999-2000
2 years in SGA
junior majoring in
Political Science

Bruce Kimbrell volunteers his time to children
Goals
★ attack issues and accompish goals for students by opening communication lines with the administration on issues like class scheduling and use of SSF money
★ work with and offer support to other student organizations
★ reorganize SGA into a visible campus voice that accurately represents student's needs in an efficient manner
VOTE! Monday, April 19 - Wednesday April 21, 10 am - 2 pm in SFLC concourse

The Chronicle
*est. 1983*

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## Wear a blue ribbon, save a child's life

Many people believe, even say, that children are the future of this country.

Oddly enough, however, thousands of America's children are suffering from abuse or neglect. Kindly enough though, during the month of April, the United States pays special attention to this cause by declaring it National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

But what is one month in the face of such a giganitic problem.?

On the local standpoint, Porter County declared the week of April 11-17 Blue Ribbon Week. Citizens were asked to show these ribbons in honor of the victims of child abuse.

Porter County is onto something with the idea for blue ribbon week. You might wonder what pinning a ribbon to your shirt is really going to do to stop child abuse. It will simply start a gigantic domino effect that could cross the nation and start the end of a huge problem.

People who wear that ribbon carry a bit of knowledge—it is everyonee's legal obligation to report child abuse.

*Something as small a piece of material has the* power to start a chain reaction of awareness.

You may not know of a victim of child abuse, but someone who sees your ribbon and asks you about its meaning may. Although you may not feel that this issue affects you directly, it is still your responsibility as a U.S. citizen to support the children that will one day grow up and run this country.

We need to eliminate the "it's not my problem, there's nothing I can do about" attitude that runs ramped through so many people. This attitude is part of the problem itself.

Reporting child abuse will help the problem greatly but sadly, will not solve it. We could punish every child abuse offender with death, but it would still continue, people will still abuse their children. The best that we can do to prevent this is to encourage people that are capable of such a heinous crime to seek counseling. Anyone that has the ability to look a child in the face and hurt that child is in need of help.

Along with it being your legal obligation to report any instances of child abuse or neglect, it is also your moral obligation. If you willingly allow a child to be abused, you may as well abuse him or her yourself.

We have ribbons that we wear for breast cancer that started awareness, and for AIDS. People associate pink ribbons and red ribbons with a certain disease and that association spreads awareness.

We can do the same for children, because abuse is a disease and awareness will help prevent it.

## The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

*The Chronicle* welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. Anonymous letters and commentaries will be considered for publication only if accompanied with the aforementioned specifications.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be typed (double spaced) or saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is 9 a.m. the Monday before publication.

## Things men should carry in a 'purse'

**COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE**

"Men are stupid," my friend Vance said last weekend, when we were on our way to Denny's.

"We need to come together as a group of men and finally decide to carry around a bag — like a purse — so whenever we need something we can dig through it and get what we need. We should keep our backpacks with us at all times and stock them with all of the male necessities." He's right. We shouldn't leave the house without a number of items. Our brain capacity is about the size of a peanut compared to a woman's. We forget everything except for our cash and our keys. Here is a list of items that we men should start carrying with us everywhere: Headache medicine — I don't know how many times I've had to stop at a gas station and pay $10 for a bottle of Excedrin. I have close to 10 bottles at home right now. I never take them with me; therefore, the next time I get a headache, it's time to buy more. A Mag-Lit flashlight — This handy invention lets us see our way through campus if our busy day at the University turns into a busy night. A Mag-Lite is also a great substitute for several things. For instance, say you're strolling through the ghetto at two in the morning and you're approached by an angry Rottweiler who doesn't like your cologne or a Girl Scout selling her cookies on a street corner. One wave of the Mag-Lite, and they'll know you're not one to mess with. A pocket knife — Never leave home without one. Of course, you won't need to use it every day, but when that one day comes, that one day you can't get that damned meal ration from the cafeteria open, you'll be wishing you brought your knife. It can also be used as a toothpick or to cut the next thing you need in your purse — um, I mean backpack — which is... Duct tape — Whenever anything falls apart — backpack, computer, a relationship with an intern — remedy the problem with duct tape. Playboy — Hey guys: ever been in this situation? You sit down at your favorite hangout with a group of girls you don't know, and you have the sudden urge to impress them, but since you're a male, you don't quite know how? Just whip out the latest edition of Playboy magazine and they'll be sure to recognize you as a man who keeps up with the current issues. Bottle opener — I don't know how many teeth I've lost trying to get Heineken bottles open. Your choice of deodorant or cologne — You never know when you're going to smell bad. Our sense of smell lags far behind that of the female species, just like our memories. Just shower yourself with this stuff every couple of hours, because you can never be too sure when it comes to meeting a lady. A calculator — You never know when you may be inspired to figure out complex mathematical problems like how rich you would be if you got paid 20 bucks every time somebody parked in the wrong place at the University.

## The people speak

**Question of the Week:**
Do you think the Cubs or the Sox will do better this year?

**Cesar E. Romero**
*junior, marketing*

"The Cubs will have a better season considering how much talent the team has, but most importantly, because of the experience the ballplayers have."

**Salvador Anaya**
*junior, electrical engineering*

"I think the Sox will win because they have younger players, a new coach, and a new attitude."

**Robert Stevenson**
*junior, electrical engineering*

"The Cubs will dominate the National League and see Sammy Sosa break the home run record with a hundred."

**Kristen Warns**
*junior, biology*

"The Cubs will kick ass!"

**Lorrell Kilpatrick**
*junior, occupational therapy*

"The Cubs will be more successful because of Sammy Sosa's excitement. The other players can't help but be positively influenced."

# Campus becomes part of South Shore Line poster series

LAUREN MATHEWS
Editor-in-Chief

Live music that filled the hallways of the CLO building last weekend was not for students in the lounge. The festive sounds were part of a reception celebrating PUC's addition to the South Shore Line poster series..

The poster was commissioned by PUC as part of a 50-poster series under the auspices of the Northwest Indiana Forum. The newest poster will permanently hang in one of the university's conference rooms, said Chancellor James Yackel, who said he found the poster to be a "reflection of the campus, it's a great statement."

Painted in the same style as the South Shore originals from the 1920s, the PUC poster depicts two girls sitting at a table in a fictional building's lounge, surrounded by books and a laptop computer. As one girl is working, the other looks out at the scenery. Behind the girls are windows offering a wide view of Founder's Plaza and the east section of the Gyte building during a sunny flower blossomed day.

The posters "portray modern images of Northwest Indiana and shows off the wonderful attributes of the area," said John Davies, the forum's vice president of marketing. The forum is a group that promotes economic development in the region. The poster project, which started last year and runs through 2001, is being called "Discover Northwest Indiana just around the corner."

Artist Alan Larkin, art professor at Indiana University South Bend and a state award-winning artist, spoke to art patrons after the unveiling and helped sell $21 prints of his poster.

Since Purdue Calumet commissioned the poster, a committee worked with Larkin to develop its look. The plans began last summer, but Larkin didn't start working on the 28-by-42-inch oil painting until March.

"I happened to be here one day when the lilies were in bloom and took some photos, which is the background," Larkin said. "I think it's quite strong, and it quickly turned into a labor of love, but I really enjoyed it."

> **"I think it does a really good job of capturing the beauty of this campus."**
> Michelle Verduzco, Director of Student Leadership Development

Not each series poster is painted by the same artist, but Larkin already has done one for the Northwest Indiana Water Co. and is working on one for Purdue North Central, which will be unveiled in two weeks.

"I think it does a really good job of capturing the beauty of this campus," said

Michelle Verduzco, director of student leadership development. "I like the laptop, it shows how this campus combines nature with technology."

Wes Lukoshus, the director of university relations, said the thought the poster was "aesthetically representative of the university. We wanted something that was relatively timeless but distinctive, and it is."

Poster prints are still on sale for $21 through the office of advancement in Lawshe-318, for more information, contact them at 989-2323.

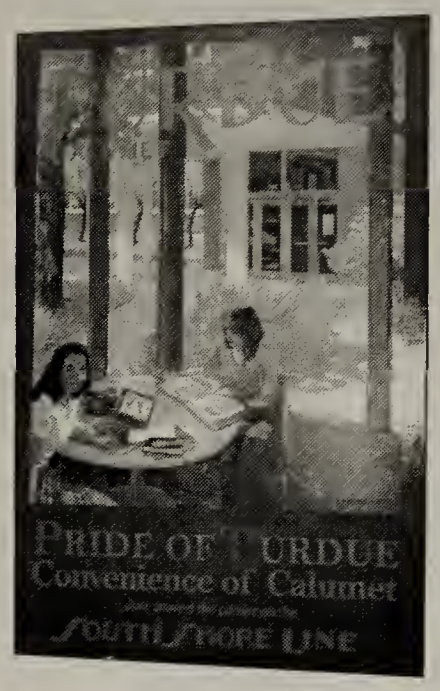


Photo by Lauren Mathews

**The newest of a 50-poster series under the auspices of the Northwest Indiana Forum was unveiled last weekend.**

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# Canada's Joydrop rocks stateside

AMY AURELIO
Production Assistant

(Editor's note: This review contains language which may offend some readers.)

In Joydrop's first U.S. single, the ethereal "Beautiful," vocalist Tara Slone establishes her own identity and self-confidence.

"Cause I'm not beautiful like you, I'm beautiful like me."

This is an anthem for anyone who got ragged on in high school, once had self-esteem issues, or laughs in the face of the modeling industry. The song symbolizes confidence in a not-so-confident world.

The songwriting of drummer Tony Rabalao, guitarist Thomas Payne, bassist Tom McKay, and Slone has a poetic quality. On "Metasexual," Joydrop's debut, some of the lyrics are somewhat ambiguous – "tied up tigers smoke the dope and dream of rope fuck with everything with a face," from Payne's rap on social and philosophical confusion, "All Too Well."

But after a couple of spins, the songs do speak for themselves.

| CD | "Metasexual" |
|---|---|
| Artist | Joydrop |
| Rating | 8 of 10 |

On the rest of the fourteen tracks, the themes range from the psychotic energy of youth ("Fizz") to letting go of someone you love too much ("Until"). With the help of veteran producer Ron St. Germain (Soundgarden, Tool, Creed), the album is a well-polished collection of edgy, thought-provoking perspectives on life, love, and religion.

Tara Slone sings beautifully during the band's debut tour.

The band was a ragtag group that came together in 1996 after Slone answered a want-ad for a singer in the newspaper. Joydrop is a diverse group of musically-educated Toronto-area natives who explore Buddhist beliefs, and use meditation to conjure their creativity and thought processes. Throughout their lyrics, especially in Slone's "Cocoon," they focus on spirituality and searching for one's own answers.

The style of music is simply rock. Slone, an opera aficionado, and almost Shirley Mansonesque, has an amazing vocal range, though, in the beginning of "All Too Well," she laments "God, I have no rhythm!" However, from seductive whispers to full-throttle howls, she proves that she can kick some ass.

The melodies are mostly acoustic guitar-driven, with interesting drum loops and samples, an occasional string section, and pleasing hooks that float around in your head for days.

There are even cool effects like a lovely echo in "Dog Star Radio." (For some inexplicable reason, this song reminds me of the New Mexico deserts).

(From left) Thomas Payne, Tony Rabalao, Tara Slone, and Tom McKay of Joydrop

**The songwriting of drummer Tony Rabalao, guitarist Thomas Payne, bassist Tom McKay, and Slone has a poetic quality.**

The music creates images in your mind that make practically no sense, but for a debut album, it's a courageous jump into the endless sea of sugary, oversexed, and worse, overplayed pop music. Joydrop proves to listeners that independent music doesn't suck.

For almost a year and a half, Joydrop were a lovely little secret whose video for "Beautiful" was featured on the local music show JBTV. Now, let them teach you how to "sing yourself to sleep."

Joydrop will be performing at Chicago's Schuba's Tavern on Southport and Belmont Avenues April 30. For more information, go to www.joydrop.com.

# COMMUNITY THEATER REGULAR DREAMS OF HOLLYWOOD SUCCESS

PUC senior and aspiring actor Michael Renas works towards his goal of standing in the limelight

KELLY CREVISTON
Production Manager

When senior Michael Renas landed the lead in last spring's production of "Lost in Yonkers," he never realized how it would affect his life.

At that time he had no idea what he wanted to do when he finished school or what direction he wanted to take his life. Now, a year later, Renas devotes his time and energy to pursuing his goal of becoming a serious actor.

Renas didn't have any ambitions of becoming an actor when he chose to attend PUC. He didn't even have a major. He came here solely because of the location, a decision that bothers him greatly.

"How sad that seems that I based a life decision on convenience," Renas said.

With only a semester left until graduation next December, he has two options about what to do with his life. He can take the safe route and attend graduate school to pursue a master's degree in theater at DePaul University in Chicago, or he can pursue what he considers his unrealistic goal.

"I would love to just go to L.A. and go for broke," he said. "It's pretty scary. I don't know what I'll do if acting doesn't work out."

Although his family is supportive of Renas' decision to become an actor, they treat it like a phase he is going through.

"My family thinks my goals are unrealistic, but they would never say 'don't go for it,'" he said.

All of Renas' training in the theater has come from PUC visiting instructor Morgan McCabe. A seasoned actor herself, McCabe believes that Renas has what it takes to make it in the business.

**"It helps you break down personal barriers so that you don't live in a shell your whole life."**
Michael Renas, on the freedom he finds in acting

"He has great perseverance, intelligence and talent," she said. "The expanse of his emotional capacity, his attention to detail, his sense of humor, and his capacity to work with others will help him succeed."

Working with others, though, has not always been his strong point. Junior Stephanie Holloway, who has worked with him in several productions, says Renas can be difficult to work with at times.

"In 'A Christmas Carol' I thought he had a big head. In that play, yes, he had the lead, but he took it way out of context. He became Scrooge on and off stage," she said.

Michael Renas is a soon-to-be PUC graduate, and a hopeful star in Hollywood.

Renas defends this by saying that sometimes he thinks others don't work as hard as they should.

"When you're working hard to memorize 60 pages of dialogue and you want to protect the integrity of the work, you can get a little difficult with people who don't seem to be taking the work as seriously," said Renas.

McCabe agrees that Renas gets stubborn at times, but she feels that he is gaining patience.

"He wants everything to be done correctly, but that comes from his deep concern for his work. He learning that not everything has to be done as soon as he wants it," she said.

Though it hinders him at times, his passion for his work helped the cast during its performance of "Lost in Yonkers."

Holloway said that a cast member forgot his line during a performance and Renas was able to step in and help because he had the entire script memorized.

"He is definitely a hard worker and a good actor. He works at getting his roles down and making the show look great," Holloway said.

Renas enjoys acting because it is his way of putting himself on the line.

He thinks this is something everyone needs to do at some point because it is healthy to break free and not care what other people think.

Sometimes, he thinks you have to make a fool out of yourself.

"It helps you break down personal barriers so that you don't live in a shell your whole life."

# Phair has some fun this time around

KELLY CREVISTON
Production Manager

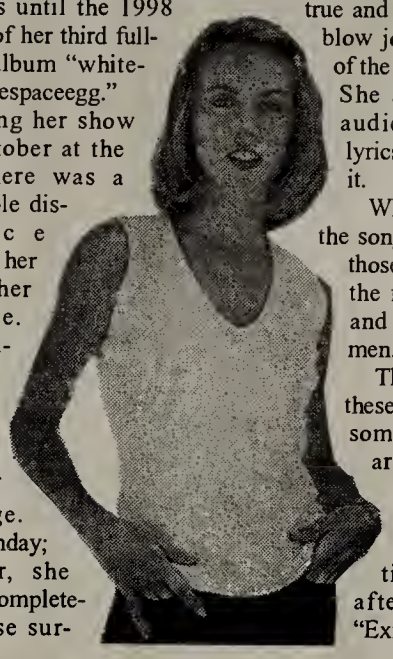
It looked more like a high school dance than a rock concert. The crowd gathered in a gymnasium with a stage in the front; and when the lights went out, the disco ball went on.

This was no high school event, though; it was the first show of Chicagoan Liz Phair latest tour, in Northern Illinois University's Duke Ellington Ballroom on April 12.

The opening act, David Mead, was so terrible that if there had been razors available, the audience might have slit their wrists. Maybe it was because of this, or the fact that Phair has a large following among college students, but Phair had good rapport with her audience from the moment she stepped on stage.

She needed this bond with her audience because later in the show she messed up two songs in a row. Both were from her first album "Exile in Guyville" released in 1993. The audience wasn't upset, though; they just smiled and laughed it off, as did Phair.

Phair is growing as a stage performer. She didn't start doing concerts until the 1998 release of her third full-length album "whitechocolatespaceegg."



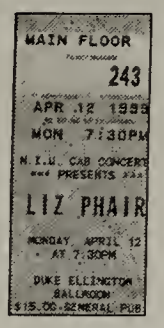
During her show last October at the Vic, there was a noticeable distance between her and her audience. She didn't dare come near the edge of the stage. Last Monday; however, she looked completely at ease surrounded by her fans.

She even got them involved in the show. One of Phair most adored songs is "Flower," a track off of "Exile" about lust. One of the lines includes: "Everything you say is so obnoxious, funny true and me / I want to be your blow job queen." This is one of the tamer lines of the song. She asked anyone in the audience who knew the lyrics to join her in singing it.

While the fans that knew the song gleefully sang along, those who were hearing for the first time just gawked and smiled especially the men.

The lyrics in songs like these may seem shocking to some audiences, but they are nothing strange to Phair who grew up in a family very focused on liberal arts education. In an interview after the release of "Exile," she said.

"My father provided me with my very own subscription to the "Evergreen Reader" by the time I turned ten. My mother used to read aloud from Henry Miller's "Sexus" and the Victorian erotic magazine "The Pearl" when I brought boys over during my teens."




Lyrics like those in "Flower" are common in Phair music, but sex is not all she is about. She also sang songs such as "Mesmerizing," and "Perfect" which describe her inadequacies in love and relationships. Along with a song off of "whitechocolatespaceegg" called "Johnny Feelgood" which talks about abusive relationships.

Some other highlights of the concert were the songs "Supernova," and "Polyester Bride." These songs catered to the portion of the audience that is only familiar with Phair radio hits.She had a good mix of songs from her three albums, but failed to sing anything from her EP "Juvenilia," which was released between her second album "Whip-smart" and last year's "whitechocolatespaceegg." This may have been a real disappointment had she not sang two new songs.

The first was a song called "Fire walker" which has a very old-school Phair sound. It has the same loud-grating throaty sound as anything off of "Exile." The second song had a completely new and refreshing sound, like nothing she has ever sang before.

She didn't say the name, but it was exciting to see that Phair music is not becoming stagnant and she is not afraid to go in new directions.The fifteen dollars and hour and a half drive to DeKalb were well worth the show Phair put on. Not only was it great to hear her music, but because of the small auditorium-like setting, her fans had a clear view of Phair no matter where they stood.

# Horoscopes For the week of April 19

**Aries** (March 21-April 19).

Work hard on Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday, stick close to home. Thursday and Friday are good for sporting events and romance.The weekend looks good for catching up.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20).

Watch your money Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday are better for saving. Thursday and Friday, the family needs your attention. Saturday and Sunday, get the romance back.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21).

On Monday you are found attractive. The money is coming in Tuesday, but could be all spent by Wednesday. Organize on Thursday. You're a leader Friday. Invite family over this weekend for a reunion.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22).

Clean out the closets on Monday. Follow a hunch on Tuesday. Find a treasure Wednesday. Set goals Thursday. Reach them Friday. This weekend, ta ke some chances.

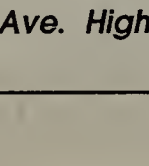
**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22).

Your team leads you to victory Monday , but pressure makes you perform on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday, you're stronger. Friday, you're powerful. Get rich on Sunday.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Set the agenda Monday. Be confident Tuesday. Wednesday, others come for advice. Thursday and Friday, hustle to keep up with demand.Travel on Saturday and Sunday.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).



You look good Monday; don't blow money. Tuesday and Wednesday, gain an older person's respect. Follow a friend's lead on Thursday and Friday. Clean house this weekend.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

You get a loan on Monday. Tuesday and Wednesday, plan a cruise.Work is intense Thursday and Friday. Be with friends this weekend.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Get a gift for a loved one Monday. Receive thanks on Tuesday or Wednesday. Thursday and Friday look good for sports, and this weekend is a time to pay your respects to an elder.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

You're lucky with paperwork Monday. A partner provides what you need Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday or Friday look good for money.This weekend looks good for travel.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Choose a loved one over a friend on Monday. Focus on Tuesday and Wednesday. Competition is fierce Thursday and Friday, hold your own. Help someone less fortunate this weekend.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20).

Choose wisely Monday. Follow intuition on Tuesday and Wednesday.Work hard Thursday and Friday. See a loved one this weekend.

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# Grueling routines cause blood, sweat and tears

## FSU cheerleaders prove they are more than just pretty faces

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

When you think of FSU's Golden Girls, what usually comes to mind? A little glitz and glamour, pretty girls in pretty tiny outfits, some impressive dancing perhaps.

While those images are all accurate, one that doesn't immediately come to mind is all the hard work - the whole blood, sweat and tears type of thing. But it's there.

The blood comes from some of the routines. Have you ever seen how hard their knees hit the court on some of those routines and yet they manage to keep a smile on their faces? Their moves are strenuous and their bodies take a beating over the course of the season. OK, so there might not be any blood, but you get the picture.

The sweat comes from the unrelenting workouts and the hours of training the Golden Girls put in. First, they work on routines six nights a week during the fall semester in preparation for the Universal Dance Association's national competition at MGM Studios in Orlando (where FSU took fifth place in the country) in January. But that's not where the work ends. Try getting up for 6:30 a.m. aerobics class three days a week and then lifting weights twice weekly after normal practice.

They get off easy in the spring though, as their practices are dropped to just four nights a week.

"I don't think people realize the time we put into it, the pressure and stress on our bodies and school work," freshman Jennifer Grissom said of the daily grind. "They see us at basketball games and see the pretty little costumes, but they don't realize how much training goes into it. It's a full year thing."

> **"They see us at basketball games and see the pretty little costumes, but they don't realize how much training goes into it. It's a full year thing."**
> Jennifer Grissom, FSU cheerleader

The tears come from the frustration of having to be absolutely perfect and from the memories they share when they're on stage together. Golden Girls coach Lollie Aulet believes the toughest thing for her is to make sure everything is just right. Not an easy task when as many as 14 girls could be dancing at one time.

The routines are choreographed right down to include the tiniest of details like where to be looking at a particular time and whether a palm is supposed to be facing up or to the side. And they also get only four days off for Christmas break because that is when they're fine tuning their routine to represent FSU at the nationals.

The tears also come from the fact that the squad is a difficult one to get on. Each spring, everyone has to try out again and there are absolutely no guarantees, as typically only half of the members return the next year. It sounds a little tougher than you thought doesn't it? But the thing is, none of them would trade their experiences for the world.

"You can expect a lot of hard work but expect a lot of rewards too. It gives you a whole group of friends that you didn't have before," senior and three-year veteran Heather Coule said. "It's all worth it."

# Gretzky finds it hard to say goodbye

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

OTTAWA, Canada - "Only a miracle" would prevent Wayne Gretzky from retiring at the close of this season, bringing to an end the greatest career in National Hockey League history.

Gretzky, the NHL's all-time leading scorer, said Thursday night that he would meet with the owners of the New York Rangers on Friday, but was almost sure to announce his retirement later that day or on Saturday.

"I just feel unless a miracle happens tomorrow morning, that either tomorrow or Saturday morning, I'll probably make it official," said Gretzky, who received an emotional, seven-minute ovation from fans after the Rangers tied the Ottawa Senators 2-2 in overtime.

If he does make it official, Thursday's game will have marked his last game in his native Canada.

"Everybody here has been so kind to my family, the fans and players. What they did today was something special," said Gretzky, noting that Ottawa is in the thick of the playoff race while the Rangers are out of it. "I hope they go a long way in the playoffs."

Gretzky, 38, said the chants of "one more year" as well as the signs saying simply "Thanks, Wayne," were the kind of thing that made his decision so difficult.

Wayne Gretzky

One other item that had Gretzky wavering was the fact that the 2000 All-Star Game will be played in Toronto.

But Gretzky said he wouldn't retire and then accept a special invitation to the game.

"I love the game, and I love to play, but there's a protocol," he said. By scoring his 1,072nd goal March 29, Gretzky became the all-time leading goal-scorer in hockey history, moving past boyhood idol Gordie Howe. The record includes regular-season and playoff games in the NHL and the defunct WHA.

In the NHL alone he has scored a record 894 regular-season goals and made a record 1,962 assists for a record of 2,856 points. In all he has set 61 NHL records.

Whatever he decides, Gretzky said, it will be final.

"It's not 100 percent," he said. "Once I make my decision it'll be 100 percent."